

**Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau  
July 31, 2019  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
RACVB Annex**

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**Board Present:** Einar Forsman, Darrell Snorek, Jennifer Furst, John Groh, Patricia Diduch, Nathan Bruck, Mike Nelson, David Anderson, Noel Nickel, Carol Schuster, Todd Cagnoni, Bryan Davis, Nathan Bryant, Kevin Frost, Chad Anderson

**Board Absent:** Tim Myers, Ted Rehl, Marcus Bacon, Tiana McCall, John Penney, Jay Sandine

**Guests Present:** Mayor Thomas McNamara and Angela Larson

**Staff Present:** Nick Povalitis, Martesha Brown, Joanne Nold, Tana Vettore, Heidi Gee

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:33 a.m. by Jennifer Furst.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

It was moved and seconded to approve the June 26, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**Davis Park Presentation:**

- The board was reminded that nearly one year ago John Groh was asked to chair the mayor-appointed taskforce to determine best use of Davis Park. The taskforce is to make recommendations for the operation, amenities and future of the park, including the Lorden building.
- Angela Larson noted that a key question of who will take on the long-term oversight and management of the park remains. A subcommittee, that she chaired, has recommended that RACVB be assigned the responsibility of managing, operating and programming the park.
- Mayor Thomas McNamara thanked the board for their dedication and discussed that Davis Park is the only city-owned park in Rockford and a priority for his administration. During his remarks, he asked the board to consider taking on the responsibility of managing, operating and programming the park. As such, he noted that he fully supports the subcommittee recommendation and believes that RACVB would be successful managing/operating/programming the park due to extensive experience.
- Jennifer Furst will appoint a taskforce of board members and stakeholders to analyze the opportunity and make a recommendation to the board.

Internal Monitoring Reports:

After discussion, it was moved and seconded to accept the report Internal Monitoring Reports 2.3 and 2.4 as submitted, including John's CEO interpretations. Motion carried. Keven Frost abstained.

CEO Report:

- Davis Park Summer Series underway with Workout Wednesdays and Music at Davis Park on Thursdays.
- Nick Povalitis was congratulated for his CDME graduation by John Groh and Mayor McNamara.
- Tana Vettore received a "Challenge Coin" from Mayor McNamara and thanked for going above and beyond, working towards a yes and caring about the city.
- Business is Blooming press conference and announcement of winners is scheduled for August 1.
- Baseball for all is being hosted at Byer Stadium this weekend.
- Jehovah Witness Convention continues with 4 weeks this year.
- Winnebago County showed a 2% positive economic growth rate for a total of \$391 million. The growth is below the state average but higher than our direct competitors.
- Stroll on State sponsorships are available. October 1 is deadline.
- FVV camp and Fan Fest went well.
- Board orientation schedule for Aug 1 will be postponed due to availability.

The board adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

The next meeting is Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at 7:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Einar Forsman, Board Secretary  
HG/KP